

Board Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2022

Prior to the regular school board meeting, an informational public meeting was held beginning at 5:30 p.m. in room #162 of the elementary building. The purpose of this meeting was to inform, discuss, and ask questions the public may have as it relates to the school district continuing their discussions with the renewal of the flexible learning year program/early start beginning the 2023-2024 school year.

The Board of Education of Independent School District No. 299, Caledonia, Minnesota, met in a regular school board meeting in the elementary building room #106. The meeting was called to order by Chair Matt Blocker at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. The school board members present were Matt Blocker, Erin Hammell, Leigh King, Melissa Marschall, Daniel Small, Wendy Woyczik, Spencer Yohe and student school representatives Jack Babinski and Emma Stemper. Also present were Craig Ihrke, Nathan Boler, Gretchen Juan, Susan Link, Barb Meyer, Karen Schiltz, Rachel Stock, Kaitlin Longhauser, Stacie Meyer, Deb Augedahl, Autumn Ellenz, Jenny Fitzpatrick, Carin Myhre, Dylan Schroeder, Miranda Schroeder, Dana White, Caya White, Sheila Schroeder, Joannie Schmidt, Kristen Schmidt, Maya Upton, Mike Woyczik, Jeffrey Babinski, Seth Louks and Tim Gunn.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Spencer Yohe, seconded by Daniel Small to approve the agenda as amended to include the hiring of Karah Anderson as junior class advisor. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

WARRIOR PRIDE

The following resolution was moved by Erin Hammell, seconded by Daniel Small

Resolution Accepting Donations

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 123B.02, Subd. 6 provides: “The board may receive, for the benefit of the district, bequests, donations, or gifts for any proper purpose and apply the same to the purpose designated. In that behalf, the board may act as trustee of any trust created for the benefit of the district, or for the benefit of pupils thereof, including trusts created to provide pupils of the district with advanced education after completion of high school, in the advancement of education.”; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 465.03 provides: “Any citizen, county, school district or town may accept a grant or devise of real or personal property and maintain such property for the benefit of its citizens in accordance with the terms prescribed by the donor. Nothing herein shall authorize such acceptance or use for religious or sectarian purposes. Every such acceptance shall be by resolution of the governing body adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members, expressing such terms in full.”; and

WHEREAS, every such acceptance shall be by resolution of the governing body adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members, expressing such terms in full;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District No. 299, gratefully accepts the following donations as identified below:

Donor	Item	Designated Purpose (if any)
Immanuel Lutheran Church	Care Kits for all staff	Saying thank you to our staff for what we do

Motion carried by a unanimous vote. Whereupon, said Resolution was declared duly adopted.

BOARD SHOWCASE

Robotics Program

Mr. Babinski shared with the board a presentation on the Caledonia Robotic Warriors program along with a summary of expenses for a typical year. He informed the board that their budget with the school district has not changed since the program has started. He thanked the community for their continued support with their program. He stated that they would like to have more financial commitment from the school district if possible for their program.

Chess Club

Mr. Boler informed the board that when they held the activity fair booth recently there were twenty-one students that signed up interested in the chess club. Mr. Jensen and Mr. Bauer would like to see this club organized for students to participate in. They are planning on meeting with students two times a week and felt this is a great way to provide connectedness. This would be a self-sufficient activity.

Dance Team Coop

Maya Upton and Joannie Schmidt addressed the board with regard to starting a coop agreement with the Houston School District for a Dance Team. There are approximately six students from our school district interested in participating in the Dance Team. This is a Minnesota State High School League sponsored team. Houston School District started their program in 2001 and provides a nice opportunity for students to participate in this unique activity and is a good addition to the sports activities.

STUDENT SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Student school board representatives Stemper and Babinski updated the board on various activities that have been happening in the middle/high school building along with co-curricular and curricular activities.

CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Spencer Yohe, seconded by Daniel Small to approve the following consent agenda items:

- Approval of August 15, 2022, Regular School Board Minutes
- Approve the electronic transfers and bills due and payable amounting to \$693,742.86 along with electronic transfers from MSDLAF to Merchants Bank in the amount of \$700,000.00.
- Accept the resignation of Jennifer Northey as a Pre-K/ECFE teacher effective August 16, 2022.
- Accept the resignation of Brad Augedahl as the head boys' baseball coach and to thank him for the past seven years in this position.
- Accept the resignation of Benjamin Glass as a facilities technician effective September 5, 2022.
- Ratify the hiring of Christine Antony as a special education paraprofessional beginning August 29, 2022, at II/7 years at \$16.25 per hour.
- Ratify the hiring of Benjamin Glass as a media paraprofessional beginning September 6, 2022, at II/10 years at \$17.02 per hour.
- Ratify the hiring of Shawn Bauer as the head baseball coach beginning the 2022-2023 school

year at III/0 years at \$4,066.00.

- Ratify the hiring of Becky Breeser as the junior knowledge bowl advisor beginning the 2022-2023 school year at I/22 years at \$1,492.00.
- Ratify the hiring of Karah Anderson as the junior high class advisor beginning the 2022-2023 school year at V//0 years at \$2,522.00.
- At the August 15, 2022, regular school board meeting Jordan Gettelman was hired as a CAPS Care teacher at \$15.75 per hour and her hourly wage will be adjusted to \$14.37 as a CAPS Care Assistant as her credits are only good in Wisconsin beginning the 2022-2023 school year.
- Certify the maximum proposed Levy Limitation Certification for taxes payable in 2022.
- Adopt the following updated school policies as presented:
 - Development of Policies #208
 - Code of Ethics Policy #209
 - Conflict of Interest Policy #210
 - Family Leave Policy #410
 - Mandated Reporting/Adults Policy #415
 - Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy #416
 - Chemical Use and Abuse Policy #417
 - Drug-Free Workplace/School Policy #418
 - Protection of Pupil Records Policy #515
 - Internet Use Policy #524
 - Curriculum Development Policy #603
 - Instructional Curriculum Policy #604
 - Transportation Nonpublic Policy #708
 - Student Transportation Safety Policy #709
 - Uniform Grant Guidance Policy #721
 - Public Data Requests Policy #722

Those voting in favor: Erin Hammell, Leigh King, Melissa Marschall, Daniel Small, Wendy Woyczik, and Spencer Yohe. Those opposed: Matt Blocker. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

Changing the Name of the MSHS Auditorium to the Performing Arts Center

Moved by Erin Hammell, seconded by Daniel Small to approve changing the name of the MSHS Auditorium to the Performing Arts Center. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Middle/High School Student/Parent Handbook Language Change

Moved by Wendy Woyczik, seconded by Melissa Marschall to approve the following language change to the Middle/High School Student/Parent Handbook.

A student may be gone up to 5 days (regardless if the absence is one hour or the entire day) from school for a pre-approved family activity. While a family activity is an excused absence, it does not make a student eligible to participate in extracurricular activities on the day of the family activity. To get pre-approval from the school, you must do the following:

1. Contact the MS/HS office prior to the absence.

2. Before leaving, get your child's homework and agree that your child will finish the homework.
3. Additional days may be granted by the principal in the event of extenuating circumstances.

Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mrs. Link informed the board that we are super excited that our elementary school scored in the top ten percent in the state of Minnesota based on our test scores. Our students, staff and parents should be proud of this accomplishment. Homecoming week went smoothly. She is hoping to find more time as our student council advisor to promote our theme, "Here Comes the Sun; be the Sunshine." She also would like to celebrate our successes in meeting our academic and Warrior WOW goals. They are introducing a "Warrior Way WOW (Word of the Week) this year in all of our classes, hallways, and common areas. The words so far have been "generosity, responsibility, respect, teamwork, and curiosity." This will develop character and serve as reminders about how to treat one another and expand our students' self-awareness. Our teachers are also weaving these words into their curriculum as reinforcement of our learning. The entire staff has been stepping up to cover for unforeseen absences. Everyone has been accommodating to help out whenever possible, but we are in need of more help. She has been working on trying to get more coverage and adjusting schedules. She started to work on teacher observations. She especially wants to get into our new teachers' classrooms, but she has been substituting in many capacities already this school year, which has put her behind. She has spent a great deal of time setting up and trying to fill Sped transportation needs this year. It has been complex, thinks that we have figured it out with possible people who can substitute when our drivers are gone. Thank you especially to Jamey Kloss who has filled in numerous times already this year. Jaymie Solum also will be helping us out by driving a van after school. The MTSS team has met with Tami Bennett and Ashley Brown from HVED. They gave us ideas on how to best serve our Tier 1 and Tier 2 students. We will also be working with HVED to update Educlimber. They are in the process of redoing their site, and then they will be in touch to discuss the changes we would like to incorporate. PACE parents have been an amazing asset to our school. They are always looking for ways to support our students and staff. We will be starting a needy student account through PACE to help out our students with needs that our school cannot provide. Thank you to Gail McCormick who has been working to make our backpack program accessible to all of our students to provide food outside of our school. Thank you to our Stephanie Mell who set up the "Clear the List for Caledonia Teachers" and all who have contributed to it. I have heard so many great comments about the items that our staff has received. Overall, the year is going well, with the exception of some staffing shortages, which puts us in a similar position as other schools. We will continue to look on the bright side, because the staff we have are dedicated and resilient.

Mr. Boler informed the board that the 2022-2023 school year is off to a great start. It is always exciting to have staff and students back in the building. This year definitely has a different "feel" in a very positive way. He was able to attend a Special Education Law conference on August 17th and a Title IX conference on August 25th. These conferences are always extremely beneficial to stay up to date on best practices and changing laws. Interviews for the media paraprofessional position were held the first week of school. He is super excited to have Ben Glass on board. He has been doing a great job! The "Green Room" behind the auditorium has been completed. This is a huge upgrade to the space. A thank you to Tricia and Jeff Babinski (along with others who have donated their time). At the beginning of the year, there are a great number of "housekeeping" items that consume a good amount of time. This is anything from device distribution, schedule changes, PSEO enrollment, and much more. We held an "activity fair" on September 8th. This was an opportunity for students to learn more about some of the clubs/after school activities available to them. The MSHS held a 9/11 program on

September 9th. Thank you to the American Legion, Ancy Hellickson, Carl Fruechte, Linda Hang, and the social studies department for their help with the program. The week of September 12th was Homecoming week at Caledonia. This was a week of dress up days, lunch activities, coronation, pep fest, and the parade. It was great to see the students and staff get into Homecoming Week and see how genuinely excited they were for the activities. He believes this was the best Homecoming Week he has experienced at Caledonia. Brent Schroeder, Nancy Smith, and himself met with Tami Bennett from HVED in regards to our MTSS program (Multi-Tiered System of Supports). This was a great meeting to try to better support students at various levels. The sixth grade attended the Environmental Fair on September 20th. On September 22nd, Caledonia will be hosting a CTE Career Fair behind the MSHS. This is coordinated with the help of the BCC. At present, we have 23 businesses attending. Houston, Rushford-Peterson, Spring Grove, Mabel-Canton, Fillmore Central, and Caledonia students will be attending. On September 22, Katie Block and he will be attending a Student Teacher Placement event at Winona State University. He has mentioned multiple times that he is hoping to start an Art club. He also has had many students that expressed interest during the activity fair in starting a book club and would like this discussed at the October board meeting. He will bring updates to the board meeting but feel this is something that would be very popular at Caledonia. He continues to work with World Classrooms as they prepare for the trip being offered to Washington DC. Some of the meetings he has attended include but are not limited to: administration meetings, SE MN principal meetings, IEP meetings, staff development, technology committee meetings, Caledonia Chamber meeting, Bluff Country Collaborative Advisory Board meeting, & Q-Comp. The Parent Advisory Council continues to accept Warrior clothing donations for students.

Mrs. Juan informed the board that early childhood screening is scheduled for November 10th and November 11th at Immanuel Lutheran Church. There have been some adjustments due to our preschool classes now being licensed, but things are going really well and the staff have found a good rhythm. SAC is at capacity, and we cannot allow more students to join even if we hire more staff. We do have a waiting list in case people withdraw their registrations. Lego League, Tech Club, Instant Piano and Instant Guitar classes have started. We have had good feedback from participants in the online piano and guitar classes. We will be offering this again in the winter/spring. Yoga, babysitting safety, home alone safety, and a retirement decisions seminar will be held in October. She updated the board regarding CAPS Care and informed them that enrollment is up and things are going really well. We currently have eleven toddlers, two infants with five more infants starting in a couple of months.

Superintendent Ihrke informed the board that he enjoyed spending the day with students during the FFA Leadership Conference. The school year has been off to a great start for everyone. We continue to have a substitute shortage in our school district and recently posted a full time teacher substitute position through Teachers on Call for the 2022-2023 school year in hopes that this will help alleviate the shortage.

Ms. Barb Meyer informed the board that SFSP corrective actions have been submitted. We had our CACFP preapproval visit on August 31st. New applications for CACFP have been sent out to parents for the new year which starts October 1st. She is continuing to see more DC and applications come in. We will see how this affects our compensator revenue for 2023-2024. Initial UFARS file has been submitted to MDE by the September 15th deadline. Title II WebEx for nonpublic carryover. These will be quarterly for this school year. Nonpublic schools have been consulted and if they don't spend their share by due date, the public school will be able to use it. Meeting with Ms. Stackhouse and Mr. Ihrke on food service. Lots of changes and new processes with meals no longer free. All claims for ESSER & GEER for 2021-22 have been submitted by the deadline. Working with St. Mary's and St. John's to use up their remaining amounts by September 30, 2022. She attended the levy workshop. The levy is continued to be updated. Working on enrollment projections. Looking to what other districts do for ATM services in their school. More details on this are forthcoming along with credit card payments.

Auditors from CLA were here on September 21st, to work on items that needed to be done onsite. The audit is still ongoing. Other business office duties (invoicing, billing, reconciling, etc.)

OLD BUSINESS ITEMS

Reimbursements for State Tournament Events that are Minnesota State High School League Sponsored Events

Moved by Spencer Yohe, seconded by Daniel Small to reimburse state tournament events that are Minnesota State High School League sponsored activities. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Chess Club

Moved by Wendy Woyczik, seconded by Melissa Marschall to start a Caledonia Chess Club for students and that this will be a self-sufficient program. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

School Policies

The following school policies had non-substantive changes so were updated, reviewed, and adopted:

- Legal Status of the School District Policy #101
- Legal Status of the School Board Policy #201
- School Board Officers Policy #202
- Public Hearings Policy #207
- Criminal/Civil Action Against School District, School Board Member, Employee, or Student Policy #211
- School Board Member Development Policy #212
- Instructional Services – Special Education Policy #608
- Health and Safety Policy #807
- Communication Education Policy #901
- Visitors to School District Buildings and Sites Policy #903
- Community Notification of Predatory Offenders Policy #906
- Rewards Policy #907

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Director Yohe updated the board regarding the MSBA conference he attended. Director Blocker informed the board that negotiations for staff are near end and hopes to have this on the October board agenda for approval.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Wendy Woyczik, seconded by Erin Hammell to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Spencer Yohe, Clerk